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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/619,397	07/14/2003	Max E. Ramey	40217.0001USC1	7673
7590	01/08/2004		EXAMINER	
Thomas H. Young MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903				KRECK, JOHN J
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		3673		

DATE MAILED: 01/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Examiner-Initiated Interview Summary**

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/619,397	RAMEY ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
John Kreck	3673	

**All Participants:****Status of Application:** \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) John Kreck. (3) \_\_\_\_\_.  
(2) Thomas Young. (4) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Date of Interview:** 30 December 2003**Time:** \_\_\_\_\_**Type of Interview:**

- Telephonic  
 Video Conference  
 Personal (Copy given to:  Applicant  Applicant's representative)

**Exhibit Shown or Demonstrated:**  Yes  No

If Yes, provide a brief description: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part I.**

Rejection(s) discussed:

Claims discussed:

Prior art documents discussed:

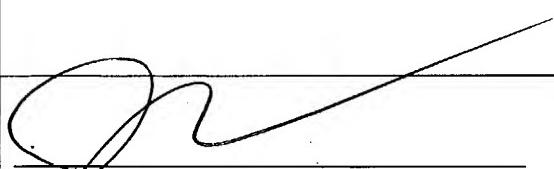
US 6,609,761 (parent case)

**Part II.****SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW DESCRIBING THE GENERAL NATURE OF WHAT WAS DISCUSSED:**

See Continuation Sheet

**Part III.**

- It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview directly resulted in the allowance of the application. The examiner will provide a written summary of the substance of the interview in the Notice of Allowability.  
 It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview did not result in resolution of all issues. A brief summary by the examiner appears in Part II above.

  
(Examiner/SPE Signature)

(Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature – if appropriate)

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was discussed: Examiner stated that a double patenting rejection would be made over the parent case. Claim 1 in the patent includes substantially all of the limitations of claim 1 in the instant application, but includes further steps related to above ground processing. The invention as called for claim 1 of the patent could not be practiced without infringing on claim 1 of the instant application; thus allowance would result in an undue extension of the right to exclude. Examiner suggested that a terminal disclaimer would place the application in condition for allowance. Examiner indicated that if a terminal disclaimer was not received in two weeks, a rejection would be mailed.